

Fall 2017

Wooster Magazine: Fall 2017

Caitlin Paynich

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Wooster

FALL 2017



APEX FELLOWS

Spread Their Wings

Also inside

Four journalists
discuss truth-telling
in the 21st century

Alumna reflects on
Fulbright experience



2017 *Annual Report*
AND DONOR LIST

Why Wooster's Promise Matters

Last year was the 150th anniversary of the founding of The College of Wooster. We celebrated that wonderful history, and we launched a comprehensive campaign called Wooster's Promise, to support our students' learning in years to come. It was also my privilege to travel around the country and talk with hundreds of alumni, and I had the chance to learn more about the meaning, and the power, of that promise in the lives of Wooster students across generations. Here's one way of describing it:

- A superb and far-reaching education that prepares students for lives of consequence
- A closely mentored education through which every student learns deeply and creates something new
- An education that welcomes all students to the community of learners, investing in each student's promise on equal terms

Wooster students learn many ways of knowing: the study and analysis of history and fiction, art and data, human expression and behavior, and the methods of science.



Photo: Matt Dilyard

Engaged with a diverse community of learners, they learn quickly that the meaning that different individuals draw from the same set of texts or data can be very dependent on the tools and experiences each person brings to the table, and that the best analysis often requires a broad range of perspectives. Through Independent Study, they become confident in struggling with the unknown, in bringing together a wide range of information to form their ideas, and in expressing those ideas effectively to a variety of audiences.

By the time they graduate, Wooster students know how to learn and have flexible, nimble minds, well-grounded in facts, and equipped with multiple modes of analysis. As alumni, they are superbly prepared to undertake jobs that didn't even exist while they were in school, and to excel at them.

These skills also enable our students to be ethical and inclusive leaders, effective in contributing to the solution of complex problems that matter. Solving such problems requires bringing multiple disciplines together; addressing environmental issues, for example, through public policy, science, and education. It requires effective and respectful communication among those whose opinions differ, and understanding that differing opinions are not only tolerable, but often necessary in order to come to the best solution. And it requires navigating effectively in a world where information is unlimited but thoughtful synthesis is rare. By virtue of Wooster's promise, our students are unusually adept in these approaches.

This year we are beginning to plan for Wooster's next chapter, and we will be in conversation with everyone on campus as well as with the Board of Trustees and alumni across the country as we consider the possibilities. No matter what initiatives and new directions we choose, our promise will continue to be the foundation on which a Wooster education is built. That decision is not the product of nostalgia. We re-invest in these commitments because they matter, both while students are at Wooster and over the course of their lives.

SARAH R. BOLTON
President

Wooster magazine: Reaching 29,000 alumni and friends

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FALL 17

THE
WOOSTER
MAGAZINE

A MAGAZINE
FOR ALUMNI &
FRIENDS OF
THE COLLEGE
OF WOOSTER

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(Clockwise, from top left) 2017 APEX Fellows: Jordan Griffith, history and political science major; Justin Warner, neuroscience major; Meonyez Goodwin, women's, gender and sexuality studies major; Jesse Garrett-Larsen, biology major; and Arabella Goodrich, archeology major.

Photos: Courtesy APEX Fellows



A first-year class rich in talent and diversity

The Class of 2021 is the most diverse group of first-year students in the College's history and one of the most talented. Ninety-five, or 17 percent of the class, are international students hailing from 27 countries. Another 22 percent are U.S. students of color.

Nearly half were ranked in the top 10 percent of their graduating high school class, and there are two dozen valedictorians.

Outside the classroom, one-third are pursuing a spot on a varsity athletics team, and another third plan to get involved in Wooster's performing arts scene, joining a musical ensemble or performing in a theatre or dance production.

Quote/Unquote: Convocation 2017

"Every year, we consider how we can best serve our mission. But this year, we face these questions with new urgency. Who will we be? What will we teach, and learn? How will we engage with those around us? What does it mean to listen to those with whom we disagree? How can we enact a more just and equitable community?"

"The College of Wooster is a remarkable place, in which people from all over the world live, study, and make meaning together. Our diversity, our commitment to equity, and our practice of seeking understanding through individual and collective study, give us the opportunity to answer those questions in ways that are powerful, for our campus community and for the larger communities of which we are part. I know that we will seize that opportunity, together, as Scots."

— Sarah R. Bolton, President



THE WOOSTER FUND

During this final year of Wooster's Promise: A Campaign for Our Future, please join other alumni, parents, friends, faculty, and staff who will make a gift to The Wooster Fund between now and June 30, 2018. Gifts to The Wooster Fund support every aspect of the College's work and help make a Wooster education possible for many of our students. Gifts to The Wooster Fund empower students to pursue their passions, challenge their



Mary Beidler Gearen '79



Jilliene Johnson '08



Meret Nahas '10

Three new trustees named

Three new trustees will join the College's board at the October meeting.

Mary Beidler Gearen '79 has been appointed by the Alumni Board, the advisory group representing the College's Alumni Association. An award-winning actor, director, and producer, Gearen's recent work includes acting in the film "Twin Cities" and producing the off-Broadway drama "The Crusade of Connor Stephens."

Jilliene Johnson '08 and Meret Nahas '10 have been elected as the board's first GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) trustees, positions that were created in order to bring a broader, more contemporary perspective to the board's work. Johnson is the diversity, engagement and professional development director in the vice provost and dean of students office at the University of Vermont. Nahas is the associate director of development at The Loomis Chaffee School in Windsor, Conn.

thinking, and reach their full potential. In other words, a gift to The Wooster Fund is so much more than a gift: it is vote of confidence in the College and the power of a liberal arts education. It is the best way to have an immediate and positive impact on every member of Wooster's campus community, and it helps make Wooster's promise even more accessible to today's bright and promising students.

New chair and vice chair for Board of Trustees

The College's board of trustees has elected Donald R. Frederico as its next chair, and Marianne Sprague as vice-chair. The election took place on June 1, during the board's most recent meeting on campus.

Frederico, a Wooster alumnus, is a partner at Pierce Atwood LLP in Boston, where he leads the law firm's class action defense practice. A senior trial attorney with more than three decades of courtroom experience, he has represented clients in a diverse range of industries, from financial services and pharmaceuticals to automotive and high technology. Frederico earned his bachelor's degree in English from Wooster and a law degree from Cornell University. He has been a member of Wooster's board since 2007.

Sprague, whose daughter graduated from Wooster in 2009, was formerly a teacher at Crane Country Day School in Santa Barbara, Cal. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a master's degree in special education from California State University. Sprague has been a member of Wooster's board of trustees since 2006.



Donald R. Frederico



Marianee Sprague

College announces \$2 million McAfee Scholarship Challenge

Thanks to the generosity of William McAfee of the Class of 1932, the College has launched the McAfee Scholarship Challenge, an opportunity for alumni, parents, and friends to have their contributions to new and existing endowed scholarship funds matched dollar-for-dollar. The challenge is made possible by a \$2 million bequest from McAfee's estate.

A donor who wishes to establish a new, named endowed scholarship must make a minimum commitment of \$50,000. When pledge payments reach \$25,000, the first dollar-for-dollar match from the McAfee Scholarship Challenge will be applied to the new fund. The

challenge will match new gifts up to \$100,000 per donor.

A donor who wishes to contribute to an existing endowed scholarship must make a minimum commitment of \$10,000. Those commitments will be matched dollar-for-dollar as payments are received, up to a total of \$100,000 per donor.

In both cases, the donor must sign an endowed scholarship pledge agreement no later than June 30, 2018, and the pledge must be fulfilled no later than June 30, 2020.

Bill McAfee graduated from Wooster in 1932 with a bachelor's degree in English, and received the college's Distinguished Alumni Award in 1982. A retired colonel in the U.S. Army, he served as deputy assistant secretary for intelligence coordination in the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research.



Oak Grove

HAPPENINGS AROUND CAMPUS

Oak Grove



LEFT TO RIGHT: Tom Boardman '70, Susie Leech Boardman '71, Darcey Johnson DeRose '73, Jim DeRose '72, Lynette Mattson '08, and Matt Long '05

Photo: George R. Vermander

Wooster Alumni in Tuscany program creates lasting connections

Six Wooster alumni joined Professor Madonna Hettinger and her husband, George Vermander, for two unforgettable weeks of immersion in a part of Tuscany that has already hosted 144 Wooster students through Wooster Summer in Tuscany, a popular study-abroad program that Hettinger and Vermander have directed since 2006. In this first-ever offering for alumni, participants were able to connect with current students' experience, albeit with a little more luxury and a lot less homework, while getting a very personal, insider's view of the magic of landscape, food, and tradition that makes Tuscan life so unique.

From their home bases in the medieval walled city of Siena and at a "rustically elegant" sixteenth-century working villa, alumni Tom Boardman '70 and Susie Leech Boardman '71, Jim DeRose '72 and Darcey Johnson DeRose '73, and

Lynette Mattson '08 and Matt Long '05, quickly discovered how easy it is to adapt to the Tuscan pace of life. Off the beaten track, they took time for long lunches and dinners prepared by personal chefs, an afternoon sampling wines from the neighbor's family vineyard, and an impromptu lesson from an art restorer working on a fourteenth-century painting behind the scenes at a medieval pilgrim's refuge built on Etruscan ruins.

As Tom Boardman put it, "We not only observed all of the wonderful sights of this historic region but felt down to our bones the unique culture of the area. The affection both Madonna and George have for the area and the people is tangible." For the DeRoses, "The heart of Tuscany was what we experienced when we were welcomed into the homes and lives of warm and engaging Italians. It is because of the intimate relationships that George and Madonna

have developed with a broad spectrum of people in Tuscany, that we were able to truly experience the wonderful bond between city and countryside that is so beautifully expressed throughout the culture."

The opportunity to "go local" with new Italian friends was especially significant for Lynette Mattson and Matt Long. "Wherever we went, we were able to talk to local people and learn about their lives and culture. One of our most memorable evenings was spent at a *contrada* dinner on the eve of the Palio, where we absorbed the excitement and tension of the community before the race." The Palio, an 800-year-old bareback horse race in the city's central piazza, is the ultimate expression of community and identity for the people of Siena and indeed, Wooster alumni found themselves in the center of the celebrations. Tom and Susie Boardman recalled the Palio as "the cherry on the top of the gelato (which we ate as often as we could)."

One of the uniquely "Wooster" highlights for the group was discovering fourteenth-century Siennese paintings that depicted our own MacLeod tartan draped on medieval four-poster beds! Who would have guessed that the Wooster/Siena connection ran that deep?

Hettinger and Vermander plan to host another Wooster alumni travel program in August of 2018. More information will be forthcoming through the Office of Alumni Engagement. In the meantime, a scholarship fund is in the works that will direct some of the proceeds from this summer's alumni program to deserving students who will be enrolled in the next Wooster Summer in Tuscany program for current students.



Campaign passes \$165million goal with 10 months to go

In a video recently sent to members of the Scot family, Blake Moore '80, trustee and chair of the campaign leadership team, announced that the \$165 million goal for Wooster's Promise: A Campaign for Our Future has been achieved, 10 months ahead of schedule, thanks to the generous support of many alumni, parents and friends. Wooster's Promise continues until June 30, 2018, and according to Moore, "the support for Wooster's Promise is truly inspirational, and we are not done yet!"

The \$165 million campaign total includes commitments from those who put Wooster in their wills and estate plans to help deliver Wooster's promise to future generations of students. Those deferred gifts represent approximately 30 percent of the campaign's success so far. The remaining 70 percent consists of gifts that will help deliver Wooster's promise to the current generation of students. And regardless of whether a gift impacts Wooster students now or years from now, every member of the Scot family can still support Wooster's Promise between now and June 30, 2018:

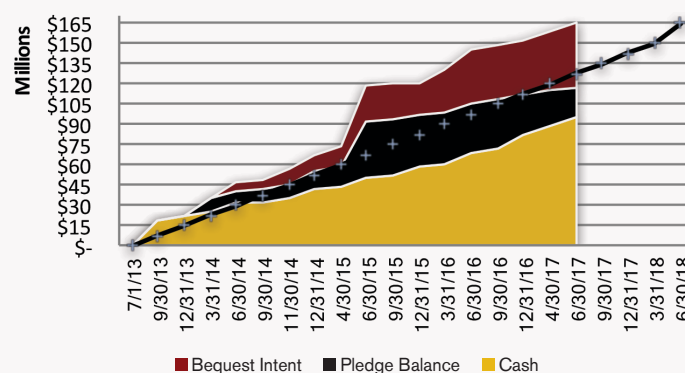
- ▶ By giving to The Wooster Fund. Every year, The Wooster Fund makes the full Wooster education possible. From the classroom, to the Oak Grove, to the athletic field, a gift to The Wooster fund is the gift with the broadest impact on our faculty and students;
- ▶ By directly supporting Wooster students through gifts to endowed scholarships and experiential learning opportunities; and
- ▶ By providing the resources Wooster's remarkable faculty need to continue the work that they do. Gifts to the Presidential Innovation Fund enhance Wooster's academic strength by allowing faculty to be innovative inside and outside the classroom.

Construction continues on schedule to make a centerpiece of the campaign, the Ruth W. Williams Hall of Life Science, a reality. This revolutionary facility will open in August 2018 and provide over 60,000 square feet of state-of-the-art classrooms, labs, and gathering spaces for faculty, staff,

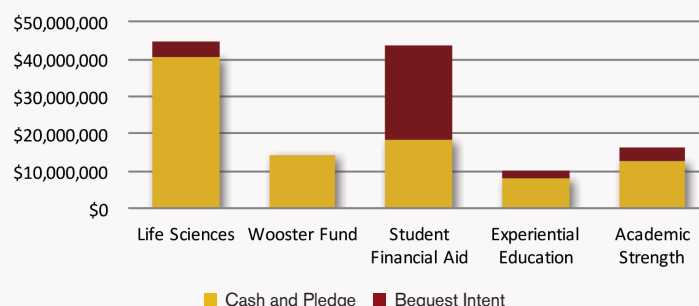
Wooster's Promise

A CAMPAIGN FOR OUR FUTURE

Campaign Total vs. Goal



Campaign Priorities



and students. A detailed video tour, led by Dr. Dean Fraga, the Danforth Professor of Biology, can be found at <http://williams.scotblogs.wooster.edu>.

President Bolton continues to travel the country meeting alumni, parents, and friends to speak about the impact of Wooster's Promise and express the College's gratitude for all that so many have done, and continue to do, to support Wooster with their time, their philanthropy, and their Fighting Scot pride.

For more information about Wooster's Promise, the McAfee Scholarship Challenge, and upcoming regional campaign events, please visit the Wooster's Promise website at wooster.edu/promise.



Kauke Hall

(in a Different Generation)

“Water, water everywhere...but nor a drop to drink” is a line from “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner” by the English poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge. For some reason, this ancient line, which I studied over a half century ago in high school, rings in my head as I prepare to write this essay on my return to Kauke Hall. Ironically, the return occurred the semester immediately before my 45th Class Reunion this past June. Rather than water, my head is swimming in so many thoughts and reflections. Where do I begin?

BACK TO COLLEGE

◀ Tom Hilt is a vice president and investment officer with Wells Fargo Advisors. A history major at Wooster, his senior I.S. examined the foreign policy of President Rutherford B. Hayes.

Photo: Matt Dilyard

I guess the best place to begin is to answer the question: Why do it? The common answers could include “Education is a lifelong pursuit” or “I enjoy writing.” Henry Ford once said, “Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at 20 or 80,” and anyone who knows me, knows I find it hard to accept words like geriatric, senior citizen, gray-hair, and old man, to name a few. But for me, the answer really came in two parts.

When I heard local Wooster author Robert Adamov speak at my Rotary Club a couple of years ago, I realized I, too, could someday write a book. A few months later, Ann Freedlander, a descendant of the family that ran Freedlander’s Department Store in downtown Wooster for more than a century, also spoke at Rotary about her book on the iconic store. Her opening words hit a chord with me. She said, “The best thing I did before I wrote my book was to go back to college and take an English class.”

And so the seed was planted.

Story by

TOM HILT '72



F

or many years, our alma mater has offered Wayne County residents free class audits (no credit earned). Registration is simple: complete an audit application, the College does a background check, the class professor signs off, and voila, you're a student again! Whoa, not so fast, Tom. One minor requirement: there must be a seat available. In other words, an audit student cannot bump a tuition-paying student. (I still remember my tuition; do you remember yours?)

It took me three semesters to find the right course, at the right time, with an available seat, but in mid-January I walked into Kauke again as a student for the first time in 45 years.

I would be remiss if I didn't admit I had the first day jitters. My mind began to race, asking questions like, "Tom, what on earth are you doing? Why are you submitting yourself to this? What do these students think?" Envision a 66-year-old guy, coming from his downtown office, dressed in a suitcoat and tie, walking amidst so many students dressed, well, as students dress today. Actually, my college days coincided with the Vietnam War and the hippie era, so nothing surprises me. I must admit, however, I did not see one male professor in a coat and tie, unlike in my day, when all the male professors wore ties. In fact, I believe my Philosophy 101 professor, Dr. Albury Castell, kept us awake with his obnoxious selection of long ties and bow ties!

I immediately checked in with Professor Schaer, or Robin as she prefers, and took a seat. My anxiety rose again as she requested we go around the room, introduce ourselves and state something that currently upsets us. Starting first, Robert introduced himself as a senior English major and whatever perturbed him. By the time my turn came, I was ready. "My name is Thomas Hilt, but you all can call me Tom, and like Robert, I'm a senior too..." I hesitated slightly, and there was a chuckle and then a room full of laughter. The ice was broken! However, the best part of that first class was Robin's review of the syllabus. For the first time in my life I was not in class to earn a grade but rather for the pure sake of learning.

"I would be remiss if I didn't admit I had the first day jitters. My mind began to race, asking questions like, 'Tom, what on earth are you doing? Why are you submitting yourself to this? What do these students think?'"

TOM HILT '72

The pre-spring break part of the semester was dedicated to short-fiction writing. One of the most interesting assignments, at least to me, was "I am a camera." It is a method to develop a scene. For example, let my camera photo-shoot our classroom. "The lone window is ground level; thus, the room is sub-terrain. There are two students standing outside the window, one holding an umbrella and wearing colorful flowered rubber boots while the other student's clothing is soaked from the drizzling rain. The classroom has two black chalk boards on opposite walls with a small screen on the window wall, projecting a photo with two old ladies in it. The tables and chairs are simple, and the remaining wall space is nicely finished, suggesting there had been an update in recent years."

Later we would use our scene-building skills in writing our short-fiction stories, which were presented in this classroom; however, our class period was now a workshop. Three or four students per workshop would present their stories and then the remaining classmates would discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the story. If I may use a pun here, we students took those discussions to the hilt. These workshops were a far cry from the daily lecture classes I remember from my earlier years in



Photo: Karol Crosbie

Kauke, although I think I remember Dr. Larry Stewart teaching my freshmen liberal studies course in a seminar style.

After spring break, we began poetry. The extent of my prior poetry writing experience was an annual Christmas poem covering notable family events over the course of the past year. The idea for this poem came from the wife of the late German professor Herr Schreiber. She was the headmaster of The College of Wooster Nursery School where both of my kids attended. The final weeks introduced me to so many variations of poetry, but I continue to gravitate back to poetic rhymes.

As I summarized my experience during my last class period, I realized a few things have changed—the obvious being iPhones and electronics—but so many more remain

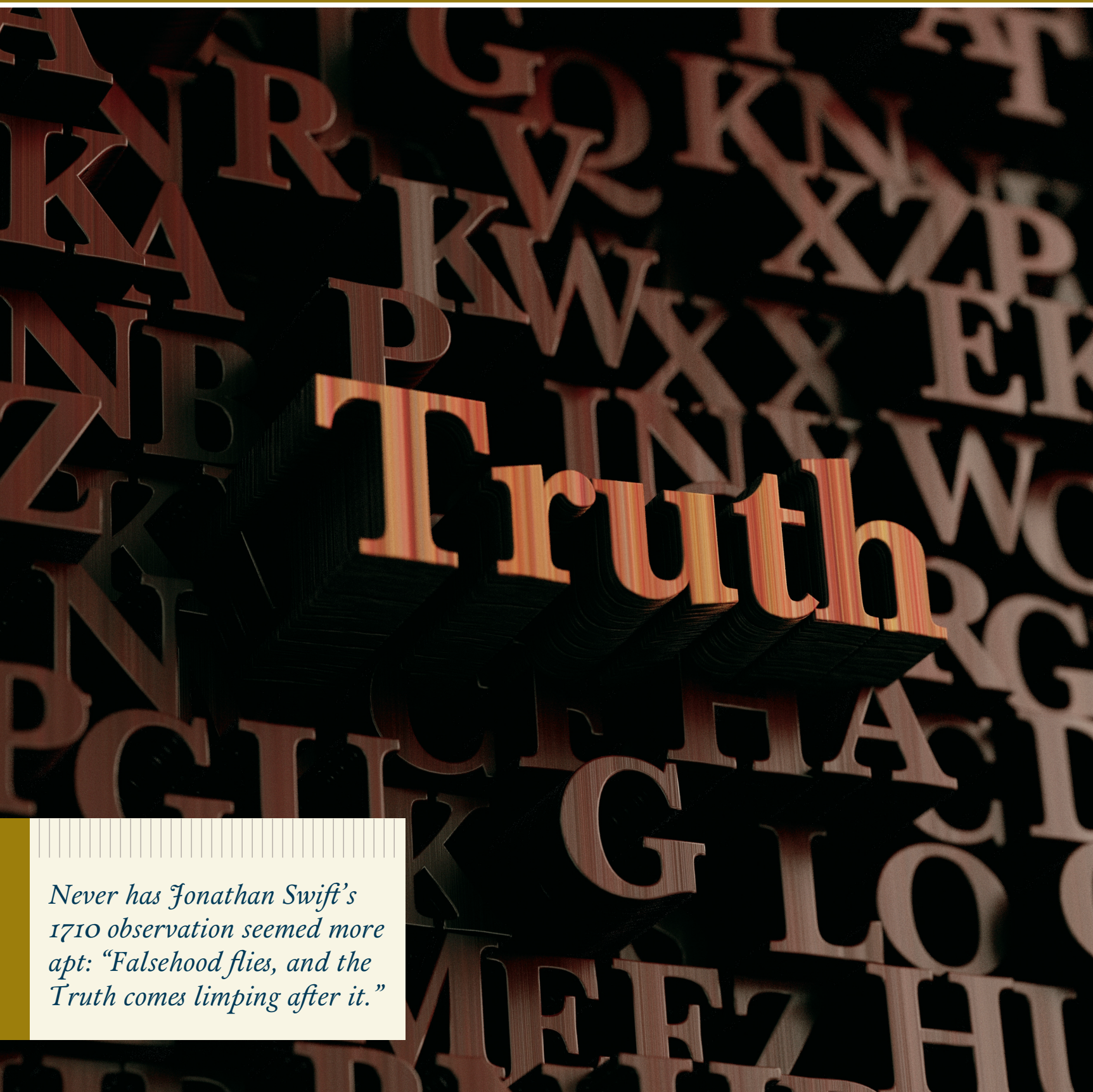
the same: knowledgeable, inquisitive students who definitely bring strong fundamental backgrounds to Wooster's classrooms. I also discovered that I could bridge the generation gap with similar interests, like talking Fighting Scot basketball with Andrew or sailing with Will or M&Ms with Kito (although he prefers the rapper, Eminem, and I prefer the Mars chocolate kind).

Helen Keller is quoted as saying, "Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all." I can say my return to Kauke was an adventure, and I'd do it again. But with all this said, only Professor Robin and my classmates know whether this essay is true or simply another short fiction!

So from "Tom the senior," here's to the memories!

"As I summarized my experience during my last class period, I realized a few things have changed... but so many more remain the same: knowledgeable, inquisitive students who definitely bring strong fundamental backgrounds to Wooster's classrooms."

TOM HILT '72



*Never has Jonathan Swift's
1710 observation seemed more
apt: "Falsehood flies, and the
Truth comes limping after it."*

Story by

KAROL
CROSBIE
+
JOHN L.
HOPKINS

A MATTER OF

FOUR JOURNALISTS
SHARE INSIGHTS
ABOUT TRUTH-TELLING
IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Trust

A national audience isn't hard to capture these days. From anonymous smartphone users sharing the video they just shot, to the blue-check royalty of the Twitterverse, millions of storytellers clog every outlet. Every point of view has an echo chamber. Trust plummets. Cynicism grows. Never has Jonathan Swift's 1710 observation seemed more apt: "Falsehood flies, and the Truth comes limping after it." The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that the number of professional journalism jobs, already shrinking, will decline by a further 9 percent by 2024. ■ And yet. For many of us, journalists who are trained in their craft and who believe in their mission are heroes. We do not take them for granted. Here are a few of their stories.

RICK DAYTON '89

news anchor

KDKA-TV, Pittsburgh

▼ THE ANCHORMAN

Dayton delivers the news as Pittsburghers start their day.

Photo: Sarah Arbogast, KDKA-TV

EVERY MORNING AT 4:30 A.M., anchorman Rick Dayton delivers the morning news from behind his polished desk at KDKA-TV, Pittsburgh's CBS affiliate. And then at 9 a.m., he leaves the office to go find the news. If the first half of his morning allows his viewers a kind of virtual familiarity with Dayton, the second half allows him a very real familiarity with his viewers.

"If what you're doing all day is sitting behind a desk, and your camera is separating you from the homes, or the backyards, or the saw mills, or baseball fields of your viewership, then you're very disconnected from it," he says. "The only way you can stay in touch is to be out there. That's the thing I absolutely love about reporting."



“The only way you can stay in touch is to be out there. That’s the thing I absolutely love about reporting.”

RICK DAYTON '89

Dayton remembers his quizzical reaction when he learned that New York and D.C. reporters were astonished that they had gotten the presidential election so wrong. “If you’re a journalist who only hangs out with people who think the same way that you do, you’re going to get things wrong.”

Dayton considers growing up in the small town of Grove City, Pennsylvania to be an asset. As a 15-year-old, he began his journalism career as a DJ and newscaster with the local radio station. By the time he got to Wooster, he was ready to take on the job of sports director and general manager at the College’s student-run radio station.

As his connection with his viewers grows, so does his empathy, says Dayton. “It is an honor to tell people’s stories. They trust me enough to say, ‘I think you’ll do my story justice and tell it properly.’”

Dayton says he’ll never forget the sorrow that he observed when multiple national media sources got a story wrong. He was an anchor for a local TV affiliate in Charleston/Huntington, West Virginia during the Sago Mine explosion in 2006 that kept the nation in suspense for three days waiting for news of 13 trapped miners. Finally, national headlines proclaimed the good news: 12 had been rescued; one was dead.

“It was incredibly emotional,” he remembers. “People were singing ‘Amazing Grace’ in the streets of this little town. I went back to my desk, it was about 2:30 in the morning, and I got a phone call. The caller was a family member on the scene; she said, ‘You’ve got it all wrong; one is alive, 12 are dead.’ It was a couple of days before we found out what had happened. There was no communication in those mines, and the message



▲ ON LOCATION

A live shot outside PPG Paints Arena.

Photo: Scott Danko, KDKA-TV

got scrambled, and mining officials didn’t have clarity, and somebody overheard something, and somebody repeated it...

“We’re telling stories that if not told accurately can have a profound impact on people’s lives. There is a tremendous weight on our shoulders. You can’t ever lose sight of that.

“Our goal is to report with compassion and empathy, with truth the most important thing that we have. Because without that, as journalists we don’t have anything.”

SARAH FENSKE '99

editor-in-chief

Riverfront Times, St. Louis

"We may have an ongoing fight to make our business model work, but not to get people to read us."

SARAH FENSKE '89



▲ EDITOR AND REPORTER

One benefit of a small staff: the editor-in-chief still gets to do her share of reporting and writing every week.

Photo: Kelly Glueck

P

PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS HAD a love-hate relationship with their hometown papers," says Sarah Fenske, who used to keep a running list of the derogatory nicknames people hung on their local dailies. *The Lorain Morning Journal*, where she cut her journalistic teeth after graduating from Wooster with a degree in political science, was known as the Morning Urinal; the *Canton Repository* was dubbed the Canton Suppository. And on, and on.

What has changed, Fenske says, is that instead of people getting their news delivered in a nice, tidy bundle each day and digesting it at least partially before reacting, "things are winging across their screens on Facebook or Twitter one headline at a time, and they just react without thinking, without even reading the story. We used to get letters to the editor, and they'd call us names, but at least they had read the story first." Today, not so much. "The world prioritizes having a hot take."

Fenske loved the pace of working at a daily paper, but after two years in Lorain, she took a job with the *Cleveland Scene*, an alt weekly where she could write more deeply reported, long form stories. She loved it, and has never looked back, building an impressive resume over the past 15 years as a reporter, columnist, and editor at some of the top alt weeklies in the country, including the *Phoenix New Times* and *LA Weekly*.

Although she has had offers to return to daily journalism over the years, Fenske always came to the same conclusion: "Why would I want to do a seven-inch story on the school board, when I can do 4,000 words on a bigger topic? Everybody else is working off press releases; we're digging. And now, alt weeklies are also breaking stories online every day, so I've got that pace, too. I've got the best of both worlds."

In 2015, she was named editor-in-chief of the *Riverfront Times* in St. Louis, a homecoming of sorts for Fenske, who had been the paper's managing editor before moving west to take the top job at *LA Weekly*. Despite the daily demands associated with having her name atop the masthead, she still does a lot of writing, for both the print and online editions, covering everything from city hall and the local economy to restaurants and the arts scene. And a couple of times a year she gets her long-form fix, reporting and writing a 4,000- to 6,000-word cover story.

At a time when anyone with a smartphone has access to an endless supply (or bottomless pit) of news, opinion, and entertainment, how do Fenske and her colleagues continue to make a city-based weekly essential reading, week after week?

"You know," she says, "there are more journalists than ever clustered in just a few places—New York, D.C., L.A., San Francisco—and so few in the middle of the country. We may have an ongoing fight to make our business model work, but not to get people to read us. My phone rings all day with people offering us tips."

"We've got the playing field a bit to ourselves. I just wish I had eight more reporters."



STEPHANIE STAPLETON '89

“Health care is an important political issue; there are always dollar signs attached to it; and it always has a human element.”

STEPHANIE STAPLETON '89

senior editor

Kaiser Health News,
Washington, D.C.

▲ **HANDS-ON EDITOR**
Stephanie Stapleton in the KHN newsroom.

Photo: Francis Ying

STEPHANIE STAPLETON, who has spent the entire 20 years of her journalism career reporting on health care, finds herself with a specialization that is both highly valued and just plain fun. “Health care is an important political issue; there are always dollar signs attached to it; and it always has a human element,” she says. “There’s always news there. And it’s always interesting.”

Stapleton’s masters in journalism and public policy from American University prepared her for her job as writer and editor for American Medical News and in 2009 she signed on with a new organization with a unique mission—Kaiser Health News (KHN). Funded by the Kaiser Family Foundation, the nonprofit, editorially independent news organization offers its stories and research free of charge to all consumers and news outlets.

The Kaiser Family Foundation decided to launch KHN because in-depth coverage of health policy increasingly “cannot be done in the mainstream news business,”

Continued on page 16 ►

“Health policy issues of today... are complicated topics that require so much expertise. ... We have the expertise, we have more time, ...and we don’t face the scary news hole.”

STEPHANIE STAPLETON '89

Continued from page 15 ▶

writes Kaiser’s president and CEO. Stapleton explains: “Health policy issues of today—Medicare, Medicaid, health insurance markets, drug costs, spiraling health care costs—are complicated topics that require so much expertise. Regular newspapers are finding themselves with smaller and smaller news holes and smaller and smaller budgets. They’re losing a lot of their experienced reporters who have the background to cover these topics. We can help them. We have the expertise, we have more time, we don’t have ad sales, and we don’t face the scary news hole.”

Arriving on the ground floor has allowed Stapleton to be a part of KHN’s growth and impact. In addition to offering its product and services at no charge, KHN also partners with writers and editors in news organizations across the country. Specialists at KHN offer background material and stories are written collaboratively. “It’s a unique model,” she says.

Trust between KHN staff and its news partners and consumers is high and trust strengthens impact. For example, in recent weeks KHN stories have explored issues related to the repeal of Obamacare and the Republican proposals to replace it. Coverage has also focused on drug costs, health insurance markets, and public health concerns and have appeared in national media outlets, including *USA Today*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and NPR.

“Ultimately, the work we do is for the general public,” says Stapleton. “We adhere to very high standards. We’ve got to tell this story, and we’ve got to tell it right.”

MIKE HOUSEHOLDER '95

video-first journalist

The Associated Press, Detroit

FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Media Editors’ Statement of Ethical Principles:

The good news organization is fair, accurate, honest, responsible, independent and decent. Truth is its guiding principle. ...

The news organization should guard against inaccuracies, carelessness, bias or distortion through emphasis, omission or technological manipulation...

It should deal honestly with readers and newsmakers. It should keep its promises...

Like most Associated Press (AP) reporters, Mike Householder is generally invisible to his public. And his public’s trust—rather than coming from personal familiarity—comes from faith in his organization’s 171-year dedication to the truth.

A political science major and sports reporter at Wooster who went on for an M.A. from the University of Maryland, Householder has worked his entire 20-year-career for the Associated Press. He explains his job: “A reporter for—let’s say—a local Detroit newspaper or TV station tells Detroit’s stories mainly to the people of Detroit. As an AP reporter, I tell Detroit’s stories to the rest of the state, the rest of the country, and the rest of the world. Most of us AP reporters toil in obscurity. And that’s fine with us.”

About six years ago, Householder took advantage of the AP’s decision to equip some of its traditional text reporters with video cameras. He discovered that he loved videography, and today is the only video-trained AP journalist in Michigan, where he videos, writes, and conducts interviews for a variety of video platforms. His evolving technical skills keep him current, he says. “Consumers of news have changed. Their appetites have changed and the way they consume the news has changed.”



▲ VISUAL REPORTING

Mike Householder gathers footage aboard the J.W. Westcott for a text and video package he produced about the boat that delivers mail to Great Lakes freighters on the Detroit River.

Photo: Carlos Osorio

But the Mike Householder bylined story that consumers read on their iPads, smartphones, or computers is not much different from the one they might have read 20 years ago in their newspapers. “With a video camera, I’m obviously looking for something that’s visual,” he says, “but I conduct interviews the same way, ask questions the same way, and avoid bias in the same way.”

His confidence that the changing dynamics of news platforms will not affect the Associated Press’s commitment to its founding mission is important to him, says Householder. “In an era where you have slanted news coming from news organizations, the AP strives to be anything but that. And I’m proud of that. I believe in that. I believe in journalism in that way.”

“In an era where you have slanted news coming from news organizations, the AP strives to be anything but that.”

MIKE HOUSEHOLDER '95

The Truth Squad

The Associated Press has taken very seriously the negative effects of false news reports, and New York headquarters routinely assigns bureau reporters the task of debunking lies that have gained social media traction. Mike Householder provides some examples of stories his colleagues have set straight:

The New York Times did not have its “newspaper’s permit” suspended by the State Department after it criticized Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte (regardless of the website created to look like a CNN outlet that proclaimed breaking news to the contrary).

Sarah Palin was not thrown into a coma after a hit and run accident, from which she emerged to identify her assailants (contrary to news reports on more than a half dozen sites posting the same verbatim accounts).

President Trump did not get a luxury model Air Force One plane, regardless of photos “borrowed” from an outfitter of luxury aircraft and claimed to be images of the plane’s interior.



APEX

FELLOWS

Spread Their Wings

▶ ▶ APEX AT WOOSTER

APEX, Wooster's center for Advising, Planning, and Experiential Learning, is located on the lower level of the Gault Library.





STORY BY JOHN L. HOPKINS

Internships are a dime a dozen. Type the word into any college website's search box and you'll get page after page of results. ▲ Internships are hit or miss. Some are substantive, others are glorified gofers. ▲ Internships are increasingly exclusive. Taking an unpaid summer position is an option many college students simply cannot afford. ▲ Wooster's APEX Fellowships, on the other hand, are something altogether different. ▲ Start with the most obvious difference, the one that first grabs people's attention: money. The college awards each APEX Fellow a stipend ranging from \$2,025 to \$3,300 to make up for the summer income they forego in taking an unpaid position, or to defray living and travel expenses. ▲ Just as important, APEX Fellowships provide the structured support and mentoring that students need to turn a summer internship into something more: a rigorous, thoughtful exercise in vocational exploration and discernment.

► This was the fifth summer that the College has provided APEX Fellowships.



53 STUDENTS
PARTICIPATED
IN SUMMER 2017

“

IT WAS A REALLY GOOD CHANCE TO LOOK AT ALL ASPECTS OF FIELD BIOLOGY FROM RESEARCHING AND WRITING TO WORKING WITH SENIOR BIOLOGISTS.”

JESSE GARRETT-LARSEN
BIOLOGY MAJOR



▲ POLITICAL OUTREACH
As the first-line contact for constituents contacting the office of Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), history and political science major Jordan Griffith “had to be well-versed in the services we offer, and the opinions and initiatives of the senator. I drew a lot upon the communication skills I’ve developed at Wooster.”





Students who receive one of the competitive awards must document how their fellowship experience will connect with their classroom experience and set out at least three goals they hope to achieve. During their six- to eight-week internship, they correspond weekly with a faculty mentor, who poses questions to guide an in-depth, reflective conversation about what they are learning, how it relates to their academic work, and how it is shaping how they think about their career plans and aspirations. At the end of the summer, each student writes a final, reflective evaluation, and once back on campus, makes a presentation to the other fellows, faculty mentors, and APEX staff.

This was the fifth summer that the College has provided APEX Fellowships, and 53 students, a mix of rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors, fanned out to an array of assignments as varied as their own interests and aspirations. Josie Cotton, a French and history double major, and JoJo Tang, business economics and math, both found themselves in New York City, but doing very different things. While Josie updated the collections database and helped out with special events at the South Street Seaport Museum, JoJo worked with the wealth management group at AXA Advisors.

Jesse Garrett-Larsen spent eight weeks at the IPBio Biodiversity Research Institute's Betary Reserve in Brazil, studying a highly infectious and

deadly disease that afflicts many species of frogs. He did literature research, conducted field surveys of the local amphibian population, and developed research protocols so future interns can continue the project.

"It was a really good chance to look at all aspects of field biology," Garrett-Larsen said, "from researching and writing to working with senior biologists. And it was just a perfect transition from my animal behavior lab with Dr. Sirot [at Wooster]. The flow from that class to this experience felt almost choreographed."

Garrett-Larsen, a biology major, couldn't say enough about the role his faculty mentor, English professor Dan Bourne, played in his summer APEX experience. "I had never really reflected intentionally on my life before, and I was a little nervous about it, but Professor Bourne helped me so much with that. The questions he asked in response to my answers in our weekly email conversations were so insightful. It never felt like homework; it was always something I looked forward to."

Most APEX Fellows find themselves paired with a faculty mentor from a different discipline. For Arabella Goodrich, that was a feature, not a bug. The archaeology major, who spent six weeks in Italy excavating and conserving mosaics at three Roman villas, found that she had to explain things in a different way to her mentor, Stephanie Strand, an associate professor of biology.

▲ UNCOVERING ROMAN RUINS

Senior archaeology major Arabella Goodrich works to uncover the remains of a Roman villa at a site about 30 miles outside Rome.

▼ BIODIVERSITY FIELD RESEARCH

Jesse Garrett-Larsen collects Boana Faber tadpoles to document symptoms of an infectious fungus called *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*.

“She had really good questions that made me think about what I’m doing, and what I’m going to do next,” Goodrich said. For one thing, their conversations helped Goodrich realize that she may need to pick up some chemistry courses during a gap year before applying to graduate school for a master’s degree in conservation.

“One of the really exciting, and unexpected, outcomes of this program has been the significant faculty interest across all academic divisions,” said Cathy McConnell, APEX’s associate director of experiential learning and academic advising. Faculty appreciate the opportunity to get to know students outside their own discipline, and develop a better understanding of how students can connect their Wooster education with their career interests.

Rising seniors frequently find that their APEX experience, and the reflective process that their faculty mentor guides them through, helps shape how they approach I.S. That was the case with Meonyez Goodwin, a women’s, gender and sexuality studies major who worked this summer with the youth and young adult program at the LGBT Community Center of Cleveland. She has refocused her I.S. topic on representations of LGBT people of color in the media and popular culture.

Goodwin wrote grant applications, helped plan events, and developed workshops on resume writing, public appearance, and social media. As the summer went on, she found that the young people at the center began to confide in her more and share their stories: about being bullied, struggling to find work, and families that don’t accept who they are. The relationships she built with them, Goodwin says, were one of the most rewarding aspects of her APEX experience. The most challenging? “Wondering if they’re going to be OK, if they’re going to be able to go back home. And being able to let it all go when I went home, and not go to sleep still worrying about them.”

All relevant and very valuable experiences for a young woman whose goal is to run her own

“
**DR. MILLARD WAS SO
SUPPORTIVE OF MY
CAREER PATH AND
PROVIDED SOME AMAZING
INSIGHT TO MY FUTURE.”**

JUSTIN WARNER
NEUROSCIENCE MAJOR

► **MAKING MENTOR CONNECTIONS**

Justin Warner found the connection that the alumni office made for him with Dr. Dee Millard '69 to be incredibly valuable. Warner spent eight weeks as a clinical research intern at the Lurie Children’s Hospital Center for Autonomic Medicine in Chicago.





► In 2014, James R. Wilson, former board of trustees chair, and his wife, Linda R. Wilson gave

\$1 million



**TO ENDOW MORE
APEX FELLOWSHIPS**

non-profit focused on helping women and children.

Eight weeks as a clinical research intern at Lurie Children's Hospital in Chicago, working alongside a mix of med school students and undergrads from Northwestern, Princeton, and Yale, reconfirmed Justin Warner's desire to become a pediatric neurologist. The senior neuroscience major spent mornings in the clinic running autonomic testing on individuals with a rare genetic disease called rapid onset obesity with hypothalamic dysfunction, hypoventilation, and autonomic dysregulation (ROHHAD), and afternoons recruiting patients for the clinical study, writing proposals, and preparing institutional review board documentation.

Like many APEX Fellows, Warner had the added advantage of connecting with a Wooster alum, Dr. Dee Millard '69, a neonatologist and assistant professor of pediatrics emeritus at Northwestern University, thanks to the College's alumni office.

"My connection with Dee was absolutely amazing," Warner said. "I was able to hear about her career in medicine and...she offered recommendations as I move through the medical school application process."

Back home from Brazil, and working at a summer camp for a few weeks before heading back to Wooster, Jesse Garrett-Larsen reflected on his APEX experience. "I've always thought of myself as someone whose goal was to learn a lot of biology and go on to study something cool in a lab somewhere, maybe in a city. But my experience at IPBio showed me that there's a different side of biology. I realized that while it's important to do something that will affect the worldwide scientific community, there also is very important work to be done in smaller communities, involving conservation. It changed my outlook on what I may want to do career-wise. It's opened up my horizons."

▲ BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Meonyez Goodwin wrote grant applications, helped plan events, and ran workshops on job readiness for the youth and young adults at the LGBT Community Center of Cleveland.

FUNDING THE FELLOWS

From 2010 to 2012, with support from the Lilly Endowment, the College developed a pilot program that linked summer internships, reflective conversation, and faculty mentoring, to allow students to make connections between their academic interests and vocational aspirations.

Impressed by the early results, the Class of 1962 earmarked a portion of their 50th Reunion gift to provide the seed money to expand the program. The APEX Fellowships were born.

The following year, Edie Andrew, the Andrew Family Foundation, and the Barklee Foundation announced that they would give \$100,000 a year for five years to fund APEX Fellowships. The Arthur Vining Davis Foundation provided \$250,000 as a bridge

grant to make possible an immediate increase to the number of fellowships available, while the College worked to grow the APEX endowment.

James R. Wilson, former chair of the College's board of trustees, and his wife, Linda R. Wilson, took a major step toward that goal in 2014 by making a \$1 million gift to endow more APEX Fellowships.

Providing further support for all the programs and initiatives under the APEX umbrella, including APEX Fellowships, is one of the priorities of the Wooster's Promise campaign.

Learn more at:
wooster.edu/promise

JOURNEYS,
HOMECOMINGS,

*& New
beginnings*

*Perspectives from a Fulbright
English Teaching Assistant
in Malaysia*

► TEACHING ENGLISH
IN MALAYSIA

Morgan Hughes (center)
participates in a small
group discussion in class.

Photo: Courtesy of Fulbright Malaysia



In May 2015, Morgan Hughes

walked across the stage in the warm Ohio sunshine to receive her Wooster degree. Eight months later, the studio art and anthropology double major was in Malaysia, beginning a yearlong assignment as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in Gerik, a community of villages some 200 miles north of Kuala Lumpur. Last November, she was asked to stay on for a second year and move to Kuala Lumpur to coordinate the Fulbright ETA Program countrywide.



We asked Morgan if she would be willing to share some reflections on her experience with *Wooster* magazine's readers, and happily, she agreed.

The journey is long but I don't feel it
Because my heart is jumping
Longing to see my family
Who seem to already stand before my eyes...

Return to the village oh oh oh...
My heart is rejoicing
Ho ho ho... Return to the village
My heart is rejoicing...

I can imagine the faces that I love
Each one of them in my heart
The longing in my heart will be cured
They will welcome my return

Perjalanan jauh tak ku rasa
Kerna hati ku melonjak sama
Ingin berjumpa sanak saudara
Yang selalu bermain di mata

Balik kampung oh oh oh...
Hati girang
Ho ho ho... Balik kampung
Hati girang...

Terbayang wajah-wajah yang ku sayang
Satu-satu tersemat di kalbu
Pasti terubat rindu di hati
Menyambut kepulangan ku nanti

— SUDIRMAN ARSHAD

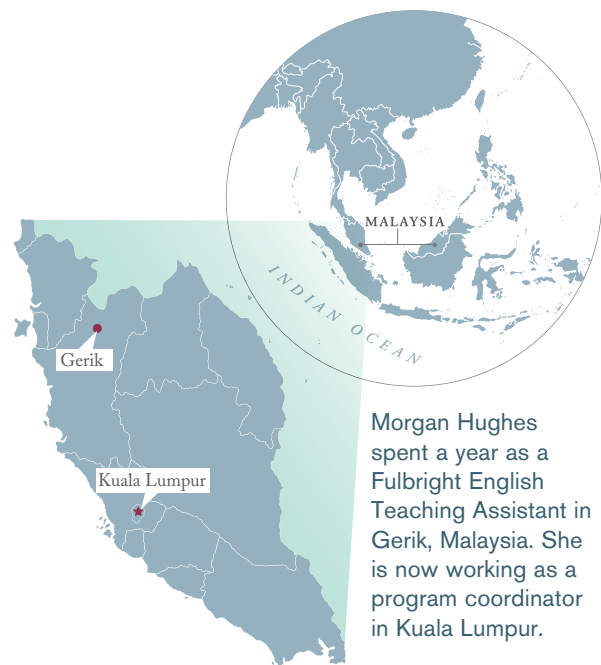


Story by Morgan Hughes '15

Balik Kampung. Return to the village.

I first heard that song more than a year ago, on the way home from a weekend English camp with my students. They broke out in perfect unison following some cue I failed to notice in the midst of one final headcount, and we rode home to our village of Gerik enveloped in the green shadows of reflected foliage and the sound of their acappella rendition. *Balik Kampung* is the Malaysian equivalent of Bon Jovi's *Who Says You Can't Go Home*. It is also (unfortunately) identically catchy and prone to getting stuck in your head. In the weeks leading up to big holidays, Kuala Lumpur, where I live now, hums with it. It plays over mall speakers, in restaurants and cafes, and through the earbuds of the man standing on the subway next to me. It is playing in my room today as I try on a new baju kurung, the outfit I wore every day last year while living in Gerik, and will wear again when I return there to celebrate an upcoming holiday.

I pull the top over my head and adjust the hem at my knees. As I move to fasten the clasp at the collar, a wave of melancholy sweeps over me. I close my eyes for a second and let myself believe that if I open them, I'll be standing in the school canteen, listening to my students recite morning prayers as the sun rises behind them. If I stay perfectly still, I will be transported back to my driveway, stooped over the sweltering asphalt to push my three year old neighbor on her tricycle. She shrieks and one of the neighborhood cats chases as we spin in circles, the skirt of my baju kurung twisting around my ankles. I rub the fabric of the sleeves between my fingers and find I am in front of a whiteboard. Twenty pairs of twelve year old eyes stare back in confusion as



Morgan Hughes spent a year as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in Gerik, Malaysia. She is now working as a program coordinator in Kuala Lumpur.

I write a list of verbs in blue marker. Hands raised above my head, I dramatically demonstrate “reach” and “fly” and “swim.” Sleeves slip past my palms down to elbows, exposing bare skin. I laugh nervously, the lead teacher rolls her eyes from the back of the room, and I tug the fabric back into place.

Outside my apartment, a bus slams its brakes and horn and I'm jerked back to reality, back to the city, back to this very different piece of Malaysia that I now call home. Less than a minute has elapsed since donning the baju kurung, but already, beads of sweat pool between my shoulder blades and begin the slow descent down the length of my spine. I don't miss the heat of the outfit. Or the way it restricts my legs, forces small delicate steps and trips me going up stairs on the way to class. But I do miss the stairs. I miss classrooms without doors and windows stuck open even in the monsoons—when class pauses because even the rowdiest students can't compete with the sound of torrential rains on a tin roof. I miss lazy afternoons in the teachers' room acting as lookout for my friend napping at her desk across from mine. I miss walking with students to the stand selling fried bananas and fresh coconut water outside the school gates, debating whether we will play Uno or Mastermind at our after-school club. I miss painting murals in abandoned classrooms



"I miss classrooms without doors and windows stuck open even in the monsoons..."

MORGAN HUGHES '15

-
- ▲ Goodbye party, post water balloons and flour being dumped on my head.
 - ◆ Playing Mastermind with students after school.





"In the last several years, I've learned to build home in places that don't look like the one where I grew up."

MORGAN HUGHES '15

- ▶ Students celebrate Form 5 graduation.
- ▶ Painting the English room.



with students previously too afraid to speak with me—paint-speckled cement floors, false wind from ceiling fans, music turned all the way up: “Teacher, no more rock. I change you music? You have Justin Beiber, miss? Selena Gomez?”

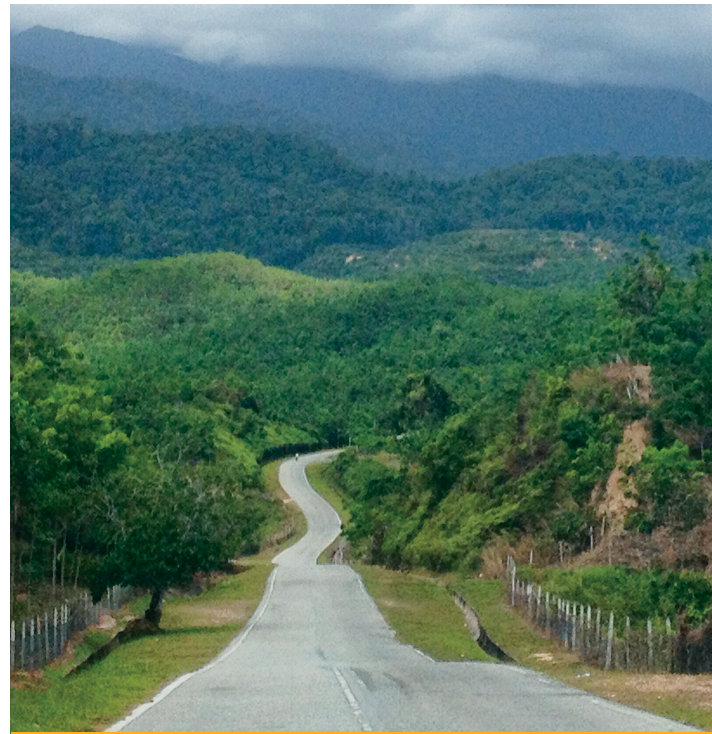
I do not miss wearing baju kurung; I miss everything that wearing it signified. “Chronic nostalgia” is the term I give to current English Teaching Assistants that call to tell me they miss home but insist they are not homesick. *Homesick* feels somehow juvenile—harkens back to summer camp, the first semester of college, missing your childhood bed. But the truth is, this chronic nostalgia really is just *homesick*, amplified by the confusion that accompanies it when the term applies to more than one place. I didn’t expect to feel homesick for Gerik, just as in the first few months there, I couldn’t imagine ever feeling homesick for Wooster. But of course, I do. In the last several years, I’ve learned to build home in places that don’t look like the one where I grew up. The process of constructing home is slow, quiet; an intentional building of familiarity and routine that mixes old habits with fresh spaces. Constant tension between known and new. The same sticky heat of Malaysia mirrors Ohio in August. The lightning outside my window looks like the storms I’d stand and watch with my father back in California. Routine builds and community grows, until the space I occupy doesn’t feel manufactured anymore. In the city now, I have friends who check in and insist on weekly dinners, one who loans me books complete with notes and folded corners.

When my contract ends in a few months and I return to the States, I’ll start the process of establishing home once again. I’m certain I’ll feel homesick for Kuala Lumpur in the same way I do for everywhere else, but I know how to play this game now. Everything I need to set homebase fits into a backpack: a tray of watercolors, one pair of grey tennis shoes, a short stack of books, three scarves, a pile of hairclips, tea, and a sturdy mug. I carry more than that of course, typically two suitcases worth (not coincidentally the limit for free luggage on international flights and Southwest Airlines), but that backpack’s worth of belongings acts as the foundation. Immediately visible scattered about every dorm, apartment, and house I’ve ever lived in, the collection is the touchstone from which all other feelings of belonging originate.

As days pass, the pile of hair clips shrinks and the scarf collection grows, adding to it a gifted *tudong* (hijab) and the pins used to secure it. I trade tea with neighbors, and we drink together on our porches. These things act as a conduit between memories of past places and present reality. They tether intangible memories and information to physical objects. There is risk in this of course; in the same way trying on a baju kurung invokes flashbacks of sweat soaked days in the classroom, watercolors and tennis shoes carry equally as powerful nostalgia. But they mark home, gather geography and community together in ways photos and stories cannot, and force healthy reflection where reticence is often preferred.

I used to fight the homesickness, afraid that succumbing to a longing to balik kampung meant I wasn’t adapting well or was failing to appreciate the opportunity to live where I was. Now, memories of different places are weaved throughout everyday—letters from friends in the States, Saturday markets that look like Wooster’s and Chico’s and Gerik’s, books read in Mamak stalls the same way they were once read in coffee shops—and I embrace the nostalgia. Every instance is a reminder to be grateful: there exist times and places and communities that say I belong and to which I can return.

Return to the village...Oh oh oh. My heart is rejoicing. Ho ho ho...
Balik kampung. Hati girang.



▲ My drive home from school.

“Every [memory] is a reminder to be grateful: there exist times and places and communities that say I belong and to which I can return.”

MORGAN HUGHES '15



BY
JOHN L. HOPKINS

*Associate Vice
President for College
Relations and
Marketing*

In fiscal year 2017, the College's
operating revenue was just over

\$84 MILLION

■ REVIEWING 2017

giving to **WOOSTER**

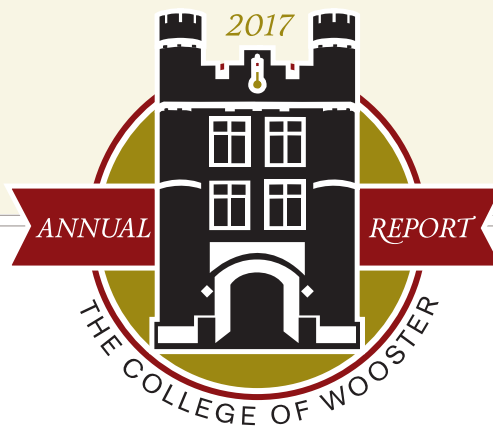
Between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, the College received \$31.7 million in gifts, grants, and pledge payments from alumni, parents, trustees, foundations, corporations, and others. Thirty-six percent of that total, \$11.3 million, went to capital projects, most notably construction of the Ruth W. Williams Hall of Life Science. Another 36 percent was given to new or existing endowed funds. Just over one-quarter, or \$8.4 million, helped directly support the College's operating budget, and is reflected in the operating revenue chart. That figure includes the money raised by The Wooster Fund.

REVIEWING *fiscal 2017*

A FINANCIAL SUMMARY

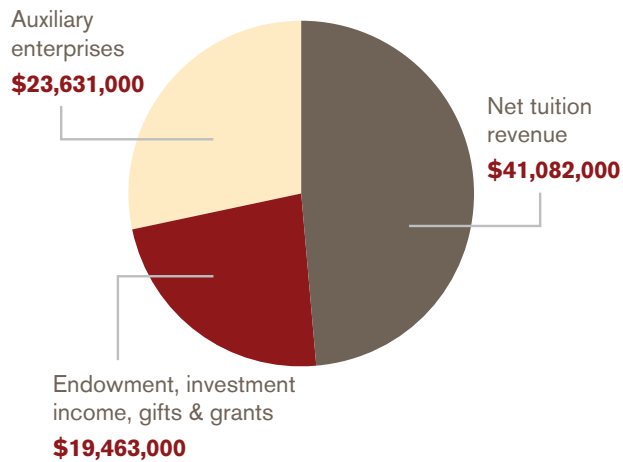
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ending June 30, 2017, The College of Wooster had \$84.17 million in operating revenue. A bit less than half that total, or \$41.08 million, was net tuition revenue—tuition less financial aid provided by the College. Revenue from room and board, and other auxiliary enterprises like the bookstore, added \$23.63 million, while investment income, gifts, grants, and the annual payout from the endowment contributed \$19.46 million.

On the expense side, salaries and benefits accounted for almost two thirds of the College's \$83.2 million in operating expenses, at \$56.1 million. Off-campus programs, travel, and general support services such as printing and postage totaled \$13.8 million, while supplies and equipment, which includes food purchased for the dining halls and merchandise for the bookstore, totaled \$9.1 million. Capital projects accounted for \$4.2 million.



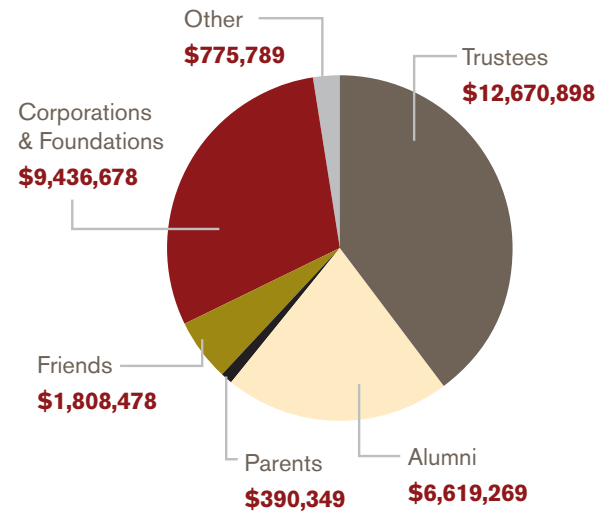
OPERATING REVENUES

FY 2017
\$84,176,000



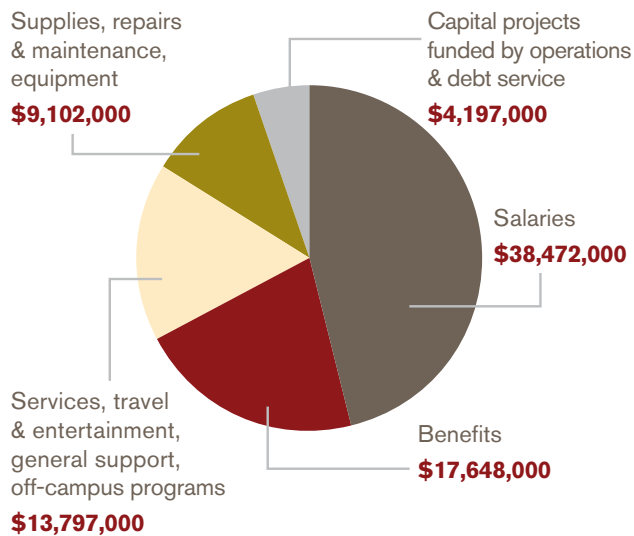
GIVING BY SOURCE

FY 2017
\$31,701,461



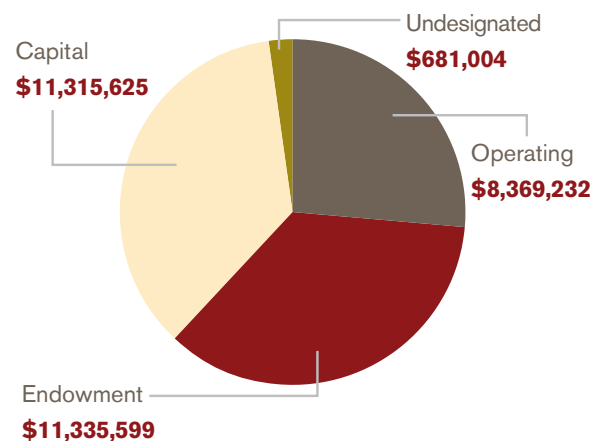
OPERATING EXPENSES

FY 2017
\$83,216,000



GIVING BY PURPOSE

FY 2017





Welcome to Woo!

If the energy generated by Wooster's student orientation staff could be captured and stored in a battery, it would light up Beall Avenue for days.

On Sunday, August 20, the orientation crew, along with scores of other student and staff volunteers, descended like a swarm of friendly and helpful bees on each arriving vehicle, picked it clean of luggage, lamps, fans, and mini-fridges, whisked it all off to a new first-year's room, and then returned to unload the next new arrival.

572
STUDENTS

*in the
Class of 2021*

were selected from
an applicant pool of

5,700



*This is
the most
diverse
class in the
college's
history.*

International students comprise

17 PERCENT
of the class

U.S. students of color comprise

22 PERCENT
of the class

Wooster

AMERICA'S PREMIER COLLEGE FOR
MENTORED UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

The College of Wooster | 108 Ebert Art Center
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In Closing

Drums, Flags, and a Sense of Belonging

While in Wooster we expect to see the band in kilts and fans sporting black and gold on game days in the cool autumn weather, in Siena, Italy, members of a neighborhood *contrada* will brave the heat of July dressed in tights and heavily brocaded medieval costumes to express their sense of loyalty and identity. The Wooster alumni who traveled to Tuscany this summer with history Professor Madonna Hettinger and her husband, George Vermander, were swept up in the swirl of flags as members of the *Chiocciola* (snail) *contrada* celebrated their feast day in the week before the traditional *Palio* horse race. The seventeen different neighborhoods of Siena each have their own colors, symbols, and songs—and their long-standing rivalries. With drums, flags, and the knowledge that generations have shared in this tradition, even the youngest members of the group feel a deep sense of belonging. Whether dressed for game day in our casual black and gold or Siena's more formal medieval attire, it's all about the spirit of community.



Photo: ©2017 George R. Vermander